

its original charter, however, dated 1828, it is intimately associated with the Church of England. It started at first and has all along had to struggle with even greater difficulties than University College. For new buildings and other purposes it has had to incur debt from time to time, more especially to meet the increased demands of physical science, for which more accommodation is urgently needed.

The expenditure of the capital funds of the College from its foundation up to the present time amounts to 180,421*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*

The schedule of payments shows that, as in the case of University College, the teaching staff is very inadequately paid.

The evening classes at King's College have been eminently successful, and provide a fairly complete course of scientific instruction for persons who are unable to attend the day classes. They were attended in 1873 by as many as 550 students, the majority of whom attended more than one class; about 300 out of the 550 attending Science Classes. The financial relations of the School, which is in a flourishing condition, to the College are substantially the same as at University College.

The same complaint is made in the case of King's as in the case of University College; the chief impediment to its further success is "that it is so extremely poor." The various scientific departments of the College do not pay, and were it not for the theological and literary departments, the College, we fear, would have to shut its doors. The professors ought to get three-fourths of the fees, but often a percentage for college expenses has to be deducted from the small sums thus yielded.

We quote in full the recommendations of the Commission with reference to the two Metropolitan Colleges, recommendations which, if carried out, would undoubtedly increase the efficiency of these Colleges, and from which the country would reap a rich return.

"After carefully reviewing the evidence laid before us with regard to University and King's Colleges, and especially taking into account the great public services which have been rendered by these two institutions to scientific education in the metropolis, we are of opinion that, subject to the reservations which we shall make hereafter, they have established a claim to the aid of Government which ought to be admitted. We think that such Government aid should be afforded, both in the form of a capital sum to enable the Colleges to extend their buildings where requisite, and to provide the additional appliances for teaching which the advance of scientific education has now rendered absolutely necessary; and also in the form of an annual grant in aid of the ordinary working expenses of the Colleges.

"With regard to the grant of a capital sum, we are of opinion that it should be appropriated to definite objects such as those above referred to; and we further think that the amount of such grants should be dependent upon the amounts raised by subscription.

"With regard to the annual grants in aid of the income of the Colleges, we think that they also should be appropriated to definite purposes, such, for instance, as the augmentation of the stipends of certain professorships, the payment of demonstrators and assistants, or payments in aid of the laboratory and establishment expenses. An account of the yearly expenditure of each institution receiving such assistance should be reported to Government. As the suspension or withdrawal of the annual grant would always remain in the power of Parliament,

we do not think that it would be necessary or desirable to give the Crown a voice in the appointment of the professors, or any control over the management of the Colleges, other than such visitatorial jurisdiction as would be implied by an annual presentation of the accounts.

"As we do not consider that a day school in the metropolis ought to receive pecuniary assistance from an institution which is itself in receipt of such assistance from Government, our recommendation of Government aid to University College is subject to the reservation that its financial arrangements shall be such as, while enabling the College to do full justice to the School, may prevent the School from becoming a charge upon the funds of the College on an average of years. Our recommendation is also subject to the reservation that the finances of the Hospital, and of the purely medical departments, shall be kept distinct from those of the College generally. Our inquiry has not extended to Medical Schools, and it is not within our province to make any recommendation with respect to Government aid to such schools, whether associated with scientific colleges or not. In the case of University College, where such an association exists, we think it expedient that the annual outlay on the purely medical department should be kept distinct, in order to enable the Government to consider separately the question of aid to the scientific department. At the same time, we do not think that there is any reason why the Boys' School and the Hospital should not continue, as at present, under the management and control of the Council of the College.

"The same reservations apply to our recommendations with regard to King's College. Indeed, so far as King's College Hospital and the Medical School connected with it are concerned, the need of such a reservation is more obvious, because it is admitted that these institutions are a heavy burden upon the resources of the College.

"With regard to King's College, we would further suggest that the College should apply for a new Charter, or for an Act of Parliament, with the view of cancelling the proprietary rights of its shareholders, and of abolishing all religious restrictions (so far as any such exist) on the selection of professors of science, and on the privileges extended to students of science. We consider that any grant of public money which may be made to King's College should be conditional on such a reconstitution of the College as should effect these objects. And we suggest that advantage might be taken of the opportunity thus afforded to introduce into the government of the College such other modifications as the experience of the persons concerned in its management may have shown to be desirable."

J. S. K.

(To be continued.)

THE INTERNATIONAL PREHISTORIC CONGRESS OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHÆOLOGY—STOCKHOLM MEETING

THIS Congress held its inaugural meeting on Aug. 7, and by acclamation elected Count Hamilton its president, and the gentlemen already mentioned in NATURE (vol. x. p. 307) its acting office-bearers.

There was no further business that day; but the 300 foreign members present (the whole Congress amounts to over 1,400) were hospitably entertained in the evening by the town of Stockholm at Hasselbacken, which is to Stockholm what Richmond is to London. There were music, supper, and fireworks; and during the evening, in reply to a well-worded toast of welcome from the Mayor, several good speeches were delivered by members of the council representing the different nations present.

On Saturday the real work of the Congress began, and

the questions discussed were—What are the most ancient traces of man in Sweden? and Is it possible to indicate the routes, during antiquity, through which the commerce in yellow amber went?

Baron Kurck opened the discussion by stating that he believed that the most ancient traces of man were to be found in the southern parts of Sweden, and that during the Stone Age men had gradually and slowly travelled northwards, which he thought was sufficiently proved by the fact that the rudest constructed stone implements were found in the south, and that they became more and more mixed with polished ones as you proceeded in a northern direction. The question was entered into with liveliness, and, among others, three of our countrymen, Franks, Evans, and Howorth, took an active part and ably sustained the reputation of Anthropology among British savans.

At the Monday's sitting, when a point of great interest was discussed, namely, the characteristics of the polished stones in Sweden, and whether it was possible to attribute the antiquities of this age to one people or to the coexistence of several tribes inhabiting the different parts of Sweden, the King honoured the Congress with his presence. It would appear, too, that he was interested in the speeches, as on a subsequent day he not only himself returned, but brought the Queen with him. The discussion on that occasion was fortunately even more interesting than on the previous occasion, for it was on the Bronze Age, and what were the analogies in the manners and the industry of the Swedish people at that time when compared with those of the same period in the other countries of Europe: also on comparing the Bronze Age with those which preceded it. On Tuesday the Congress visited Upsala (the Oxford of Sweden), and were received and entertained by the professors and students in a most novel and interesting manner. They met us at the railway station, the students all with their white caps on, and carrying the twelve white silk banners, with the embroidered arms and devices of their respective provinces upon them, done in gold and silk thread in a manner which it would be hard to find female fingers at the present day, even when stimulated by Cupid's dart, capable or willing to execute. The choir of students, which I am told is the best in Europe, sang a song of welcome, and then marched before us to the principal points of interest in the town, several times giving us brilliant examples of their vocal powers, especially in the cathedral. Our visit to Upsala was, however, not one entirely for amusement, but for instruction, and a few miles from the town was one of the largest of the country's tumuli, opened for our inspection. It was nearly 40 ft. high, and composed chiefly of sand, covered over with grass, looking like a little hill, but one at whose height and steep sides you would look twice before attempting to ascend. In this were found human remains and the bones of animals (burned) supposed to have been offered in sacrifice. Fragments of gold and iron were also discovered, and a coin, all of which lead to the belief that this tumulus is not more ancient than the fourth century. Another excursion was made on Thursday to the Isle of Björkö, where there is an ancient cemetery of 2,000 tumuli, each about 4 ft. or 5 ft. high, and from 12 ft. to 18 ft. in diameter. Within a couple of hundred yards from this is the site of the

ancient town; nothing remains to tell of its site but the souvenirs which lie hid in its soil, which is called the "Black Earth," and is famous for its potatoes. Several trenches, 3 ft. deep and nearly 4 ft. wide, were run through the site of this ancient town, and several of the members of the Congress were fortunate enough to pick up articles of interest—fragments of very rude pottery, needles of bone, glass beads, fragments of iron, and an immense number of the bones of domestic animals, including those of the horse, ox, sheep, dog, cat, pig, as well as of birds. From the remains found here it appears this town must have existed at least up to the eighth century. Before the visit of the Congress to it were found several iron keys, fish-hooks, and pincers: also a whole necklace of coloured glass beads, chiefly white and red; a great many fragments of hair combs, some very well engraved, with crossing straight lines, circles, and dots. They were all formed of bone.

On the following day was discussed the question of how the age of Iron was characterised in Sweden, and an attempt was made to establish the relations at that period which existed between the Swedes and the more southern nations; but, just as on some of the other occasions, no definite conclusion was arrived at, and this arose from the great tendency members showed for discussing the details instead of keeping to the main subject. The last question considered was, what were the anatomical and ethnical characters of the prehistoric men in Sweden? This afforded a second opportunity to the Congress of hearing an interesting passage of arms between Messrs. Virchow and Quatrefages, very similar in substance to what we had from them in print the year after the Franco-German war. They agreed to differ then, and they agree to differ still. It was interesting, but not to the point. However, all ended amicably, and the seventh session of the International Prehistoric Anthropological and Archaeological Congress may be said to have terminated by an evening party given by the King of Sweden to all its members at his country palace of Drottningholm, on Saturday, August 15, 1874. Her Majesty and the Queen Dowager were both present. This evening party will long remain in the memory of the members of the Congress as a pleasant tribute of royalty to the shrine of science, reflecting as it does as much credit on the intellectual acumen of him who gave it as honour on those who received it.

The next meeting of the International Prehistoric Anthropological and Archaeological Congress will be held at Pesth in 1876. GEORGE HARLEY

ARMSTRONG'S "ORGANIC CHEMISTRY"

Introduction to the Study of Organic Chemistry. The Chemistry of Carbon and its Compounds. By Henry E. Armstrong, Ph.D., F.C.S. (London: Longmans and Co., 1874.)

TO write a good introduction to any subject is sufficiently difficult, but if the subject be developing very rapidly and undergoing very marked changes, as is the case with organic chemistry, obviously the difficulty of presenting such a subject to a student in a satisfactory manner is vastly increased. Dr. Armstrong has devoted